

Allegation E1

Project: CIA Building  
Location: Interior  
Item: Walls and Corridors

Allegation: | Office walls and corridors generally received one coat of oil base paint in lieu of two coats as required by specifications.

Specifications: Paint coats for plaster surfaces, wood surfaces and metal surfaces shall be two (2) coat work, consisting of a body coat and finish coat. Prime coat is required only on new materials and to touch-up bare and worn spots on old materials.

Evidence: (1) In March 1967, Mr. W. S. Van Eyken of GSA's Federal Supply Service was assigned (by GSA) to perform a technical evaluation of the CIA paint job. His report, dated March 16, 1967 (Exhibit \_\_\_\_), states:

"From the results given in Table I <sup>83</sup> paint samples were tested of which 36 or 43 percent indicated the application of only one coat/ it is evident that in several locations contractor used one coat instead of two coats of paint. ... It is also clear from the results obtained that paint coats applied varied significantly in film thickness. This leads one to the conclusion that in several areas paint was applied too thin, i.e., paint was diluted with solvent prior to application. Where one coat only was applied with diluted paint the previous coat of paint is still visible and then the overall appearance of the paint job is poor. It seems that on some floors an effort was made to comply with the terms of the contract. Differences in general appearance are noticeable for example where two full coats of paint were applied to a film thickness say 3.5 to 4.5 mils in contrast to areas where one or two diluted coats were applied to a film thickness of about 2 mils maximum."

\* \* \* \* \*

"Metalwork tested for compliance indicated the same pattern as per conditions found on the walls. In some cases two coats of paint were applied. In a few cases only one coat was used. A total of 8 window frames were tested. Five of these indicated 2 coats of paint and 3 obviously had only received one coat of paint."

(2) In April 1967, GSA was requested by the Subcommittee to analyze ~~eight~~ additional paint samples taken from the CIA building. The results of the GSA analysis, dated April 28, 1967 (Exhibit \_\_\_\_), indicate that of the eight samples, one area received one coat and another area received either one 2 mil coat or two one-mil coats. These results are consistent with those of the Van Eyken analysis of samples taken from the same general areas.

(3) Eight samples were also sent to the National Bureau of Standards for testing. The results of the NBS tests (Exhibit \_\_\_\_ ) are consistent with those of the Van Eyken analysis of samples taken from the same general area.

Conclusion:

Allegation is correct for much of the CIA building. Test results indicate that as much as 43 percent of the building area painted received one coat.

E. Central Intelligence Agency, McLean, Virginia

The Central Intelligence Agency, Headquarters Building, is an 8-story structure located in McLean, Virginia.

The contract for repainting the interior and exterior of the CIA Building was awarded to Charles Bainbridge, Incorporated, Annadale, Virginia, in March 1965 for about \$160,000. On June 3, 1965, Bainbridge entered into an agreement with Clifton D. Mayhew, Incorporated, Arlington, Virginia, whereby Mayhew, for the sum of \$139,000 was to furnish all labor and equipment to complete the painting in accordance with plans and specifications, and all material was to be furnished by Bainbridge. The work on the project was completed in December 1965.

Allegations of painting deficiencies at CIA were made to GSA in January 1967 by Mr. Francis L. Ward and GSA subsequently investigated the matter. Their investigation, which included an analysis of paint samples taken from the building, disclosed some evidence that the specifications were not adhered to in all cases; however, to our knowledge, no action has been taken against the contractor.

Although the specifications for this work required that each coat of paint be tinted a different shade, no tinting was done. Consequently, it was difficult and in some cases impossible to determine conclusively the number of coats applied, and the proof supporting this allegation should be viewed in this light.

In essence, the primary allegation made to the Subcommittee regarding this facility was as follows:

<u>Allegation</u>	<u>Proved</u>	<u>Not Proved</u>
1. Walls in offices and corridors did not receive the required number of coats.	Yes (some areas)	

#### SECTION 4 - INTERIOR PAINTING

4-03 PAINT COATS for plaster surfaces, wood surfaces and metal surfaces shall be two (2) coat work consisting of Body Coat and Finish Coat. Prime Coat is required only on new materials and to touch-up bare and worn spots on old materials. Except as otherwise specified, paint coats shall be as follows:

PRIMING - TT-P-56b for plaster and wood. TT-P-636c for metal, TT-P-641b for galvanized metal.

BODY - TT-P-0029c\* for all plaster surfaces and for all wood surfaces specified to be finished to match adjoining plasterwork. TT-E-543 for wood and metal surfaces specified to be finished in trim colors.

FINISH - TT-P-0029d\* for all plaster surfaces and for all wood surfaces specified to be finished to match adjoining plasterwork. TT-E-508 for wood and metal surfaces specified to be finished in trim colors. TT-E-508 for exposed surfaces of electrical cabinets and telephone cabinets specified to be finished in wall colors.

#### 4-08 PAINTING PLASTERWORK

a. PRIMING: Upon completion of the repairing and cleaning -- after surfaces have thoroughly dried -- apply a priming coat to all repaired parts, where paint has scaled off and to the entire surfaces of any spaces not previously painted. All stains, suction spots, so-called fire or hair cracks, which may show through or appear on the surfaces after the priming coat of paint shall have been applied thereto, must be given as many additional coats of priming paint as may be necessary to insure the obliteration of such defects after the body and finish coats of paint are applied.

b. BODY: When the priming coats are dry, give the entire work specified for plaster painting one coat of body paint.

c. FINISH: When the body coat is dry, all surfaces shall be given a coat of finish paint.

#### 4-09 PAINTING

Each coat of paint shall be evenly applied and allowed to dry before any subsequent coat is applied. Each coat shall be a sufficiently different tint as to be readily discernible from the preceding coat. The finished work shall be free from runs and sags, defects and clogging of lines or angles. SPRAY PAINTING WILL NOT BE PERMITTED.

\*CHANGE ORDER NUMBER 1, DATED JULY 1, 1965:

Furnish and apply oil base paint, in all areas specified in the contract documents, in lieu of latex paint.

All work shall be accomplished in accordance with applicable contract requirements.

JSW

*[Signature]*

22 June Hearings  
Painting Deficiency

This is the data  
that will be used  
in the Agency Bldg.  
5 other bldgs involved.

LLM *[Signature]*